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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT NO.		25X1
SUBJECT	25X1 <input type="text"/> Views on East German Morale	DATE DISTR.	9 February 1954	
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25X1 1. Reports from widely scattered localities in the Russian zone of Germany indicate that the mood of the East German population has become noticeably more tense. This is ascribed to two factors. In the first place, the supply situation is getting worse, particularly as regards food, heat, and electricity, and many people fear that "another catastrophic spring" is likely. Second, there is disappointment and resentment over Molotov's negative speech concerning free elections. The tenser mood, especially among the workers, is reflected in bolder discussions of the Soviet tactics at the Four-Power Conference and in isolated instances where individuals have spoken of the possible recurrence of the events of 17 June 1953. 1

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Comment: No uprising is to be anticipated at present, nor even widespread minor demonstrations; but the situation is very fluid and nothing is completely impossible, particularly if the Conference fails and if the onus for failure rests squarely on the Soviet delegation.

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